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1955/03/14

14 March 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

I spoke to Mr. Melloy this morning about security for the Ambassador. I pointed out to him that Binh Xuyen, who controls the police, in effect are responsible for the man whom they know is responsible for the President's attack on the sects. It strikes me that this is rather weak procedure. Frank called in Heavey and Heavey and Mellow discussed the problem. He told Heavey to give it further consideration. Heavey's opinion was that unless some definite indication pointed out that the Binh Xuyen were desirous of eliminating the Ambassador, it would be unwise to remove the police guards and replace them by others. My thought of an alternate solution was to ask the President for utilization of personnel from his Palace guard and/or supplement the guard around the house inside of the hedge with U.S. Marines or other personnel that would be undoubtedly loyal to the Ambassador.

I don't want to bring this subject to the attention of the Ambassador because he has enough on his mind now without being concerned with his personal security. Since the Embassy people are much more familiar with this type of security, I am not going to take further steps at this time but will allow them to handle the situation as they deem advisable.

KELLY

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